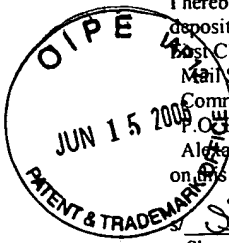


DFW

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Sherry Thompson
 Sherry Thompson

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Huff

Serial No.: 10/749,281

Confirmation No.: 9783

Filed: 12/31/2003

For: Bumper/Muffler Assembly

Group Art Unit: 2837

Examiner: Unknown

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(c)

Mail Stop _____
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 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR 1.56, Applicant brings the art document(s) listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 to the attention of the Examiner for consideration in connection with the examination of the above-identified application.

No representation is made that the art cited constitutes prior art or that the art cited is the most relevant art. The reference(s) cited so that the Examiner will be aware of material known to the applicant. The Examiner is encouraged to consider the cited reference(s) and make an independent determination of materiality.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within the period specified at 37 CFR 1.97 (c)--i.e., after the period specified in 37 CFR 1.97(b) but before the mailing date of either a final action or a notice of allowance, whichever occurs first. A certification as specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e) is provided below.

The undersigned attorney certifies that each art document listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 was cited in a communication from the European Patent Office Patent Office in a counterpart PCT application more than three months prior to the filing of the original statement; however, original submission of this document did not have the cited art documents, WO 02/38419 and EP 0 822 322 , enclosed.

Copies of these cited documents are enclosed, herewith.

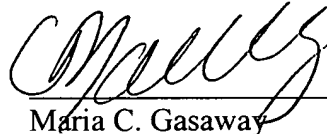
The cited art documents are in the English language.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner confirm consideration of the cited documents by initialing the attached Form PTO-1449 and returning a copy of the initialed form to Applicant.

If any fees are due in connection with the filing of this statement, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) in the event that the period specified at 37 CFR 1.97(b) has elapsed, please charge all required fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0568.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 6/12/06



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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1	of	1
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Complete if Known

Application Number	10/749,281
Filing Date	December 31, 2003
First Named Inventor	Huff
Art Unit	2837
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	24997D

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY			
		EP 0 822 322	04-02-1998	Matsuoka et al.		
		WO 02/38419	05-16-2002	Huff et al.		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.